

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-20 are now present in the application. Claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103

Claims 1-10, 14-17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Saeki et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,078,727 (hereinafter "Saeki"). Claims 11-13, 18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saeki in view of Moriyama et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,006,004 (hereinafter "Moriyama"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections have been obviated and/or rendered moot. Without conceding to the propriety of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the application, as the Examiner will note, independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20 have been amended.

Independent claim 1 has amended to recite a combination of steps including "creating and recording an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object for pointing to the start position of each stream object".

Independent claim 6 has amended to recite a combination of steps including "recording an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object for pointing to the start position of each stream object".

Independent claim 10 has amended to recite a combination of steps including “reading an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object pointing to the start position of each stream object”.

Independent claim 15 has amended to recite a combination of elements including “control means for creating an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object for pointing to the start position of each stream object”.

Independent claim 18 has amended to recite a combination of elements including “control means... controlling said reading means to read an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object pointing to the start position of each stream object”.

Independent claim 19 has amended to recite a combination of elements including “a controller to create an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object for pointing to the start position of each stream object”.

Independent claim 20 has amended to recite a combination of elements including “a controller to control said pickup to read an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object read by said pickup pointing to the start position of each stream object”.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of steps set forth in amended independent claims 1, 6 and 10 and the combinations of elements set forth in amended independent claims 15 and 18-20 are not disclosed or suggested by the references relied on by the Examiner.

Saeki discloses an AV data management file including the PGC information and the VOB information (see FIG. 9). Saeki discloses that the PGC information is a table which includes a list of video sections in VOBs arranged in the reproduction order. The information

specifying the video section are called cells. Each cell specifies a video section in a VOB by *its start time and end time*. Each piece of PGC information shows logically linked video sections of AV data specified by the cells. (See col. 9, lines 57-64).

Saeki also discloses that each of the VOB information includes the VOB general information and the time map information. The VOB general information is information, such as a reproduction period, unique to each VOB. The time map information shows *relationships between the reproduction points (times) and the storage positions of the VOBUs*. (See col. 9, lines 31-36).

In other words, Saeki discloses a mechanism to search the data in the disc by using the *relationships between the times and the storage positions of the VOBUs* in the VOB information (the time map information) to convert the *start time and end time* of the cells in the PGC information *to the start address and the end address* (see also Step 284 of FIG. 26; col. 19, lines 30-33). Therefore, Saeki's mechanism requires *two types of information, i.e.*, PGC information and VOB information, and a complicated conversion or mapping from the times to the addresses of the data.

Unlike Saeki's complicated conversion or mapping from the times to the addresses, the present invention *simply uses an index number* of a first stream object unit of each stream object to obtain the start position of the stream object. Although the Examiner on page 3 of the instant Office Action asserted that the PGC information and the VOB information are used to search for the VOB comprising a plurality of VOBUs, Saeki still fails to teach using an index number of a first stream object unit of each stream object for pointing to the start position of each stream object as recited in amended independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20.

With regard to the Examiner's reliance on Moriyama, this reference has only been relied on for its teachings related to the time elapse information. This reference also fails to disclose the above combinations of steps and elements as set forth in independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20. Accordingly, this reference fails to cure the deficiencies of Saeki.

Accordingly, neither of these references individually or in combination teaches or suggests at least the above features of amended independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 18-20 and their dependent claims clearly define over the teachings of the utilized references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

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Art Unit: 2615

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Amendment due July 27, 2005
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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants respectfully petition for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and the required fee of \$450.00 is attached herewith.

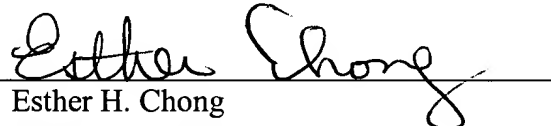
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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